



NEWS

For Release: December 16, 2004

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www.state.nj.us/agriculture/sadc/transferprofilesbooklet.pdf

NEW PUBLICATION HELPS FARM FAMILIES PLAN TO PASS FARM TO NEXT GENERATION

The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) today released a new publication to assist farm families in undertaking the planning needed to ensure they can successfully transfer the farm to the next generation, Agriculture Secretary Charles M. Kuperus announced today.

“Transferring the Family Farm: What Worked, What Didn’t for 10 New Jersey Families,” offers real-life profiles of families who describe their successes and challenges, as well as what they learned and what resources proved valuable, as they planned for and undertook the transfer of their land and agricultural operations.

“This publication is part of our efforts to retain our farms and ensure we keep our farmers on the land,” said Secretary Kuperus, who chairs the SADC. “It is a heartbreaking situation when a family is forced to sell all or part of a farm to pay inheritance taxes or to ensure an equitable distribution of the estate among heirs. It is critical that farm families plan for an orderly transfer of the farm to avoid this. All generations then can enjoy peace of mind in knowing the future of the farm operation is secure.”

The publication is intended to provide farm families with information and ideas to consider as they evaluate their own situations and embark on their own transfer processes. Included is a section listing additional informational resources for farmers in farm transfer situations.

The publication was developed through the SADC’s Farm Link Program. The program serves as a resource and referral center for new farmers, farmers seeking access to land and farming opportunities, landowners seeking farmers to lease or purchase land, and farmers working on estate and farm transfer plans. Funding assistance was provided through Growing New Farmers, a regional initiative of the New England Small Farm Institute.

The publication is available on the SADC web site at www.state.nj.us/agriculture/sadc/transferprofilesbooklet.pdf or by contacting the Farm Link Program at (609) 984-2504.

The SADC administers New Jersey’s Farmland Preservation Program and promotes innovative approaches to maintaining the viability of agriculture.

To date, more than 1,200 farms covering more than 130,935 acres have been permanently preserved in New Jersey. The state leads the nation in farmland preservation, with 16 percent of its available agricultural land base permanently preserved.

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